

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 220842Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1609

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USIA WASHDC

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ATHENS FOR USIS/CAO; THE HAGUE FOR USIS STIER;

LONDON FOR USIS MCDOWELL; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL

SUBJECT: TRILATERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

REF: A) THE HAGUE 3736; B) STATE 161759;

C) STATE 158813; D) EC BRUSSELS 5929

1. ON BASIS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY KNOWLEDGEABLE
EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL, USIS-USEC CONCURS IN
FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT OF EUROPEAN COORDINATION
BUREAU PROVIDED BY THE HAGUE (REFTEL A).
ORGANIZATION WAS ESTABLISHED AT COMMISSION URGING
IN WAKE OF 1968 PARIS STUDENT RIOTS TO SERVE AS
CHANNEL FOR EC CONTACT WITH STUDENT/YOUTH
ORGANIZATIONS. COMMISSION STILL CONTRIBUTES TO
FUNDING AND COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH ECB PROJECTS.
WITH RECENT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,
COMMISSION HOPES ESTABLISH INCREASINGLY ACTIVE
PROGRAM WITH ECB TO MAKE IT MAJOR REPRESENTATIVE OF
EUROPEAN YOUTH GROUPS OF ALL SORTS VIS-A-VIS EC
INSTITUTIONS. ECB ALREADY COUNTS AMONG MEMBERS
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WIDE SPECTRUM OF LABOR UNION, POLITICAL PARTY,

RELIGIOUS AND OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST YOUTH GROUPS.
USIS-USEC IS SENDING DEPARTMENT COPY OF RECENT ECB
ANNUAL REPORT WHICH PROVIDES ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON
MEMBER GROUPS AND ECB POLICIES.

2. REGARDING TRILATERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE (REFTELS C
AND D), POST NOW UNDERSTANDS FROM TOM SPENCER OF UK,
ONE OF PRINCIPAL ORGANIZERS, THAT FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED
SCENARIO. GROUP ESSENTIALLY COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF
WAY EUROPEAN LIAISON COMMITTEE WILL MEET THIS SUMMER,
POSSIBLY ON MARGIN OF EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC STUDENTS
CONFERENCE IN ATHENS, TO ESTABLISH ORGANIZATION FOR
PURPOSE OF SPONSORING TRILATERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE
ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES. AT SAME TIME, STEFAN SCHEPERS,
PRESIDENT OF ECB, WILL ATTEMPT CONVINCE ECB BOARD TO
SUPPORT CONFERENCE AND IS CONFIDENT THAT HE CAN
SUCCEED IN DOING SO IN TIME TO HOLD PREPARATORY
CONFERENCE (AT WHICH SOME AMERICAN PARTICIPATION
DESIRED) LATE SUMMER OR EARLY FALL. FULL CONFERENCE
WOULD BE HELD LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT.

3. IN VIEW OF THIS RATHER INVOLVED PROCEDURE, WE HAVE
TOLD SPENCER WE SUPPRT IDEA OF CONFERENCE BUT HAVE NOT
COMMITTED OURSELVES TO ANY FUNDING UNTIL WE SEE HOW EVENTS
DEVELOP. IF SCENARIO UNFOLDS AS PLANNED, USIS-USEC
WOULD PROVIDE FUNDS TO SUPPORT LIMITED AMERICAN
PARTICIPATION AT PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IN FALL.
DEPARTMENT SUPPORT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO FUND FULL
AMERICAN PARTICIPATION AT FINAL CONFERENCE IN
APPROXIMATELY SAME DEGREE AS AT RECENT EUROPE-
AMERICA CONFERENCE IN THE HAGUE. PRESUME THIS
PRIMARILY WOULD MEAN TRANSPORTATION COSTS FOR
DELEGATION OF 20 TO 30 PEOPLE FROM US TO CONFERENCE
SITE (POSSIBLY ATHENS) AND RETURN.

4. EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL CITED PARA ONE ABOVE
EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN SPENCER AND SCHEPERS AS
CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS. WE ARE KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH
COMMISSION AS PROJECT DEVELOPS.

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4. FOR ATHENS. ACCORDING TO SPENCER, GREEK GOVERNMENT,
VIA OFFICIALLY SPONSORED YOUTH GROUP, WOULD BE WILLING
PROVIDE CONSIDERABLE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT TO CONFERENCE
IF IT WERE HELD IN ATHENS. SPENCER WILL BE IN
ATHENS THIS SUMMER TO ATTEND DEMOCRATIC STUDENTS
MEETING AND MAY CONTACT USIS-ATHENS.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT REFTELS TO AMEMBASSY

ATHENS. MORRIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU07195
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760282-0145
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760733/aaaabcvn.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 THE HAGUE 3736, 76 STATE 161759
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <01 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRILATERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, EEC
To: STATE ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006